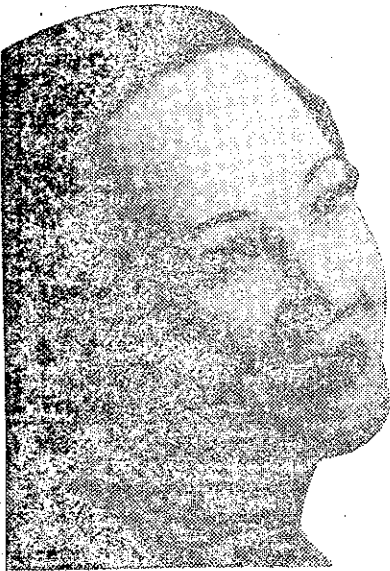


THE HOME FORUM

DOROTHY WANTED ON ALL STATIONS

CONSTANT LISTENER (New Plymouth): What I want to know is why can't Dorothy Wood be put on the New Zealand commercial service network instead of her broadcasts being confined to IZB, a station which we find particularly difficult to pick up at certain times of the day?

Dorothy and her Happiness Club have brought comfort and a new interest in life to thousands of women like myself. My life isn't very exciting—rising early, milking cows, rearing children, darning,



DOROTHY
"A national asset."

washing, cooking. You know, the old daily grind that might be helping to build a nation (an expression we hear a lot nowadays!), but still isn't entirely satisfying to the woman who feels that life holds just a little more than the performing of these good and useful services.

Dorothy is a national asset, a woman whose personality and sincerity can bring fresh joy and new hope to thousands of women in every part of New Zealand. But under the present arrangement she can only be heard by a limited number of listeners in the northern part of the Dominion.

Please—I want Dorothy on the national commercial network—and so do thousands of other New Zealand women!

Berlin Station

'Truth' (Auckland): I have been a constant listener to the German shortwave station for some time and my experience has led me to agree with Mrs. L. Voice's statement, that the German people are genuine in their desire for world peace.

Regarding the news bulletins issued by the GSS I can state that later events have, in almost all cases, justified the announcements. With the exception of Daventry, the GSS is the only station which has given accurate reports of the Spanish War. In sorry contrast is the insidious propaganda broadcast to the world by the Red stations of Soviet Russia and Republican Spain, which, as far as I can see, are directed at destroying the prestige of the British Empire as well as that of Italy and Germany.

In passing, I would like to add that until lately one could hear propaganda of the same colour by tuning in to "History Behind the

New Plymouth Listener's Request . . .
"German People Are Genuine In Desire For World Peace" . . . In Defence of "History Behind The Headlines"

Headlines." I am sure that Stalin was well pleased with the efforts of Kenneth Melvin. But if he has ideas of New Zealand becoming a Soviet republic he is going to be very disappointed.

Propaganda

Edward Willingham (Hastings): I am sure the IZB feature, "History Behind the Headlines," could not be as offensive to foreign ears as some of the abusive propaganda of certain European short-wave stations. I wonder if those concerned there would ban their session on the complaint of a British consul? I think not. Our session is purely local, and therefore our own business; theirs is for the world to hear. Should I say in parting, "People in glass houses should not throw stones," and may

we hear "History Behind the Headlines" again very soon.

"Poor Stuff"

Bill Jones (Christchurch): I quite agree with your correspondent X regarding the poor stuff served up to us by the broadcasting stations, more especially on Saturday nights. For very many Saturday nights I have had no wireless at all, simply because of the trash from all YA stations. The answer "turn the knob" is a very poor and inadequate retort, as we do not possess a wireless set merely for the sake of being able to turn the knob. Personally, I think that Dunedin programmes are in advance of our Christchurch ones, and that frequently 3YL is also in advance of 3YA.

I also endorse Defender (27/1/39) when he says jazz is "A mere cacophonous clatter of

syncopated discord," and as for "crooners" I think they ought to be banned altogether, as their mandlin moaning is enough to make anyone weep. And weep with rage that he cannot get up and destroy them.

"Selfish Lot"

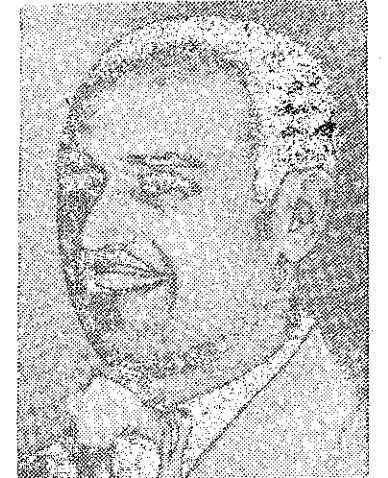
Remember Me (Alexandra): Reading with interest each week the arguments put up by lovers of the classics, I've come to the conclusion that they are a selfish lot. If they had their own way, they would have the programmes cluttered up with their own taste. We people, who like jazz, like any good, decent music. Are people not entitled to have their preferences?

Also, regarding "sloppy" songs, I agree with Sparks, of Taihape. If "Whistle and I'll Come to Thee" is not sloppy, what is? If some of

these classical fiends would listen to Richard Tauber singing "Symphony" and "Can I Forget You?" they would admit that it is music of quality, sung by an expert. To their feeble minds, it's jazz. I would ask Definition, of Auckland, to first listen to Bing Crosby singing "Silent Night." And if he still says that it is a mere "cacophonous clatter," well, he is the one who has no right to criticise. Like it or not, "Classicals," your days are over.

Sammy Lee

L. Powell (Huntly): I see in this week's "Record" space given to Dick Colvin's band. I listen quite regularly to these broadcasts and cannot understand the praise he got when, right in Wellington, is



SAMMY LEE
"Best band to hit these shores."

the best band that ever hit these shores. Yes—Sammy Lee and his Americanadians. The solo and team-work of this combination, has never before been approached, even remotely, by bands in this country. Special commendation should be given to Niel Thurgate, for his arrangements, and no other band in this country could give them the fire and lift the Americanadians do.

The Churches

Walter A. Kent (Catlins): I half expected a reply to my declaration on the question, "Can the Churches Save the World?" but as none has appeared, this may stir things up. Some years ago a bishop in Anglican Synod made the statement that more and efficient business methods should be used in church matters. Note:—Busi-

Crossword Puzzle

PRESSURE on space has forced us to hold over the usual crossword puzzle until next week.

ness is poison to Faith. The Church must take its share of the blame of present state of things. From my reading I find that an efficient business man was in charge of finance, etc., in early days, and sold the movement.—i.e. Mr. Judas Iscariot. Evidently business ethics in those days were much the same as at present.

Incident

Listener (Timaru): On Monday, January 30, I was journeying from Invercargill to Timaru by train and had my portable radio for company. In the big tunnel just north of Dunedin, I turned on the radio, but no music was forthcoming. Even with all windows and doors shut in the carriage, smoke poured in somehow or other, and before the end of the tunnel was reached, all passengers were coughing and wiping eyes. When the train left the tunnel I turned the radio on, and (from either 3YA or 4YA) heard "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes." The time was about 12.10 if anyone wanted to check up on it. It seemed very amusing at the time.

NATIONAL SWEEPSTAKES WON'T STOP MONEY LEAVING NEW ZEALAND, SAYS READER

AS a valuable reader of your valuable publication, writes "Belmont" (Palmerston North), I was amused to read your article of January 27, advocating national sweepstakes to prevent the flow of a million pounds a year which is alleged to leave this country for Australia and elsewhere.

What evidence have you to offer that the cure would not be worse than the disease? Your argument is that if New Zealanders could invest in lotteries in New Zealand in a perfectly legal way, they would cease sending money out of the country as they are doing at present.

My own opinion is that it would be more likely to increase the amount sent outside than reduce it. Your "argument" is pure assumption, unsupported by the slightest tittle of evidence. Allow me to prove that to you.

Years ago, the racing fraternity said, "Give us a State gambling system per medium of the totalisator, and we will abolish the bookmaker." According to your own statement (again unsupported), you say that there are three times as much invested with the "bookies" as there is invested on the totalisator. You have disproved your own case with your own "evidence."

All this talk about being unable to stop this flow of money out of the country, is particularly laughable just at the very moment when money is not now exportable because of Government control of exchange. Surely, you must never read the papers.

If you want to disprove my contention, go to your banker and tell him you want £50 to invest in Tatt's, and see how you get on. It is true, unfortunately, that the Government is still allowing better (!) terms through the Post Office.

I hope, however, that this loop-hole will soon be closed. All this

goes to show that your blatant claim that stopping money from leaving the country could be prevented is just so much "boloney."

I am informed that the Government has taken steps to see that all winnings are paid in New Zealand currency; this means that a man who won a large prize recently, and who was going to leave the money in Australia for investment, finds now he has to keep the money in New Zealand!

Cultivate It?

THE whole burden of your argument is this: If you cannot cure an evil, then cultivate it. How would the doctors get on in trying to cure cancer, for instance, if they worked on the same formula?

Do you know, I have the same trouble in my garden; no matter what I do, the weeds will continue to grow, but I have never thought of your wonderful discovery of encouraging them to grow! I abhor the idea that to maintain hospitals, etc., we should raise the necessary funds by gambling. Gambling is anti-social and uneconomic. Once you adopt your suggestion, you kill the spirit of free-giving as demonstrated by Lord Nuffield and many others.

Further, this scheme of yours would let the wealthy off paying anything. Personally, I have a contempt for the man who will contribute nothing to anything unless he stands to win a big prize. I object to art unions and all such humbug; the object is better than the procedure.

To try and stop gambling is only to drive it underground, you say. Just so; we have been unable, so far, to stop thieving; do you suggest that the law against thieving be abolished and that people be allowed to steal openly?

It is only the age-old struggle between right and wrong, justice and injustice; to compromise on these matters would be morally fatal.

What, I would like to ask, is the effect upon the winners? (I am not much concerned about the losers; I consider gamblers are a lot of "mugs," and entirely agree with an Australian judge who said, "Gamblers have either the brains of children, or they are a lot of imbeciles.")

Technique

THERE is a certain amount of technique required to spend money. There are thousands of working men who have not sufficient intelligence to enable them to spend their wages decently.

The worker who gambles his wages before he gets home, is not fit to be trusted at all with money—it ought to be paid direct to his wife. Many workers spend one-third of their wages on drink and gambling, and the other two-thirds on their homes.

But what about such a man winning £2000 in an art union? Why, nothing but disaster can follow such "luck." I know of such a case, and the result was the man drank himself into the asylum. He is now just where he started.

I cannot close this letter without saying how disappointed I am with the Hon. W. Parry in his advocacy of gambling. As an old stalwart in the Labour movement, he must know that gambling is one of the greatest evils in the country, and that it is no good to the working class.

The essence of gambling is capitalism. As a Socialist, I claim that no man can be a gambler and a Socialist at the same time.

Gambling, like capitalism, is based upon greed. A man cannot be an atheist and a Catholic at the same time. I hope that this Government will follow the Gladstonian dictum and endeavour to make it easy to do right and difficult to do wrong.